

IMPORT HEALTH REQUIREMENTS OF GREAT BRITAIN FOR
CAPTIVE BIRDS (PET BIRDS) FROM THE UNITED STATES

1. An official export health certificate, signed and stamped by an official veterinarian of the exporting country to accompany every consignment, contained on one sheet of paper giving name and address of exporter, name and address of importer, and including a schedule of the birds giving details of numbers and species (English and Latin scientific names to be used). A U.S. Origin Health Certificate, Veterinary Services Form 17-140, may be used.
2. The certificate to be written in English, or English and the official language of the country of export where this is not English, and must state the following:
 - a. all birds have been examined by an official veterinarian* of the exporting country within 48 hours of the date of shipment of the birds, and certified healthy and free from clinical signs of infectious or contagious disease, including Newcastle disease and avian influenza;
 - b. the birds to be exported are fully fledged and capable of feeding themselves;
 - c. no cases of Newcastle disease or avian influenza have been diagnosed on the premises where the birds have been kept, or within a radius of 10 km of those premises, during the 6 weeks prior to the date of shipment;
 - d. the birds to be exported and/or the birds on the premises from which the birds are to be exported have not been vaccinated against Newcastle disease;
 - e. the birds to be exported have been resident in the exporting country for a minimum period of 6 weeks immediately prior to export;
 - f. the birds to be exported have been kept in isolation** under official veterinary supervision for at least 2 weeks before export, and during this time they have not received any antibiotic treatment;
 - g. the isolation premises have been cleaned and disinfected prior to entry of the birds for export.

* The official veterinarian must not certify any captive birds for export when he has a direct financial interest in the captive birds, arising for example from ownership of the captive birds or a business relationship with the exporter or is the exporter himself.

** Isolation in this context means the export consignment is separate from, and not in direct contact with, any other birds on the premises and that during the 2 weeks prior to shipment no new birds are moved onto the premises where the birds for export are isolated. Also, during this period there shall have been no significant mortality (greater than 2 percent), and that deaths are investigated and are not due to infectious or contagious disease.
3. A written statement from the exporter to be attached confirming that the birds for export:
 - a. will be shipped to Great Britain with not more than one intermediate stop;
 - b. are not being consigned from the country of export with any other birds not of a similar animal health status;
 - c. are packed in accordance with International Air Transport Association (IATA) Live Animal Regulations.
4. In addition as part of good husbandry and hygiene, it is recommended that

exporters should:

- a. not keep any poultry at their aviaries, nor should they have any direct or indirect contact with any poultry;
- b. where appropriate, reduce the possibility of any contact between birds in their isolation premises and visiting wild birds by good housekeeping methods, i.e., all food supplies stored inside the buildings, and any spilt food should be swept up at least twice daily;
- c. adopt high standards of cleanliness and disinfection of their aviaries especially between batches;
- d. burn all birds dying in isolation after any necessary veterinary examinations rather than bury them;
- e. not use antibiotic excessively. If treatment is required, a course given after capture should be sufficient to overcome any capture/transport stress-related conditions. Great care should be taken to ensure that water used to dilute the antibiotic is uncontaminated. Previously boiled and cooled water should be used if necessary.